

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 11 with the following amended paragraph:

Other equipment in the system of FIG. 1 includes an IP-based server 36 and an associated database 38 for providing on-line services to customers. A Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN) end-office 28 can be coupled to a user's telephone 30. Similarly, a Mobile Switching Center (MSC) 32 can be coupled to the user's wireless telephone 34. In FIG. 1, bearer paths are illustrated by dashed lines through the media gateways 24 and/or backbone network 22. The bearer paths may use different protocols including, for example, Real Time ~~Protocol/Internet~~ Protocol/Internet Protocol (RTP/IP), ~~Intergrated~~ Integrated Services Digital Network User Part (ISUP)/IP, SS7 and ATM Adaptation Layer Type 1 Protocol. Signaling, or control, channels that serve as logical protocol links are illustrated by solid lines.